



Lowell City Council

Michael Q. Geary City Clerk

Election Laws/ Redistricting SC Minutes

Date: July 27, 2022 **Time:** 5:00 PM

Location: City Council Chamber/Via Zoom (Hybrid)

375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA.

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Robinson and C. Drinkwater. 1 absent (C. Leahy). Also present was C. Mercier, Nancy McGovern (Mgr. Office); C. Yem; and Greg Pappas (Election Director).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Robinson called the meeting to order noting the agenda.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Robinson introduced first agenda item concerning Consent Decree regarding filling of vacant positions. C. Robinson opened matter up to public with no comment. C. Drinkwater requested update regarding proposed process to fill vacancies. Mr. Pappas noted he was not yet familiar with this issue. C. Drinkwater noted the need to change the system with new districts. Mr. Pappas commented on converting to a district system. C. Robinson noted the Election Office needs to address this issue as primaries approach. **Motion** by C. Robinson, seconded by C. Drinkwater to have Law Department work with Election Department to establish process to fill election vacancies. So voted.

C. Robinson introduced second agenda item concerning Consent Decree regarding selection of the Mayor. C. Robinson opened matter up to public with no comment. C. Drinkwater noted that the Council had referred this to the Law Department to begin the process for changing system. **Motion** by C. Robinson, seconded by C. Drinkwater to request update from Law Department regarding selection of the Mayor. So voted.

C. Robinson introduced the third agenda item concerning polling location and supplies. C. Robinson noted there is room for improvement regarding locations and resources; further noting that early voting is quickly arriving. C. Robinson opened matter up to public and Yun-Joi Choi addressed the subcommittee. Mr. Pappas noted polling map has been prepared and sent

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by the Secretary of State and was approved by the Election Commission. Mr. Pappas noted early voting procedures were approved as well. Mr. Pappas noted ballots have arrived at City Hall and review of all voting machines is currently being done. Mr. Pappas noted training for poll workers is scheduled and they would need about 190 of them and currently they are short of that number but have time to increase. C. Robinson questioned process to become a poll worker. Mr. Pappas commented on the process and use of CORI checks as well. C. Robinson questioned polling locations. Mr. Pappas noted there are 13 approved locations and noted some districts had changed. C. Drinkwater requested list of those locations. Mr. Pappas reviewed the list. C. Drinkwater noted information should go out to public early and often. Mr. Pappas reviewed all of the resources available at polling location. Mr. Pappas commented early voting and vote by mail will decrease traffic at polling locations. Mr. Pappas noted it is difficult to have polling locations certified due to State restrictions. C. Drinkwater questioned when voting information cards would go out and if the information from State website would be available. Mr. Pappas noted both those resources were currently being utilized. C. Robinson commented that there should be a presentation before City Council to assist with getting information out as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. Robinson, seconded by C. Drinkwater. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk